

From: Neil Stahl
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/15/02 7:56am
Subject: Proposed Microsoft Settlement: Don't Do It

Sirs:

The future of the American computer industry is in your hands. It will be a bleak future if Microsoft is left as the monopoly your proposed settlement would achieve.

As long as one company makes the dominant operating system and applications it will always have an incredible advantage in both markets and will have little reason to innovate or to do a good job. This is born out by the way Microsoft has achieved dominance in both markets, from a start where there were many competitors and software was evolving fast. If you are watching the evolution of software now, you must notice it has slowed to a crawl. If you are watching the quality of software Microsoft produces you have seen security for our computers running their software is remarkably poor. In a market with real competition this wouldn't happen, market forces would correct it.

As a computer user I urge you:

1. Do not go through with this settlement.
2. Do split Microsoft into two or more parts, isolating the part that makes operating systems from the rest.

Sincerely,
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